

MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., MAY 24, 1928.

The eleventh meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1928 was held in its office in the Interior Department Building on Thursday, May 24, 1928.

The following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Delano,
Mr. Morris,
Mr. Vitale,
also Mr. H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary
and Executive Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: The Minutes of the Meeting held April 20, 1928, were approved.
2. FLAGPOLE AT FORT SUMTER, S. C.: By Act approved May 11, 1928, (Public Resolution No. 41, 70th Congress), the sum of \$25,000 has been made available through a bequest of Eliza Mackintosh Clinch Anderson Lawton, daughter of General Robert Anderson (Mr. Francis X. Brosnan, 50 Broad Street, New York City, being executor of the estate), for the erection of an ornamental flagpole at Fort Sumter, S. C., as follows:

"RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, That the Secretary of War is authorized and directed to select a suitable site and to permit the executors of the estate of Eliza Mackintosh Clinch Anderson Lawton to erect on public grounds of the United States at Fort Sumter, Charleston, South Carolina, a flagstaff, with appropriate landscape and architectural setting, and to place in connection therewith a memorial commemorating the defense of the fort by General Robert Anderson. The design and materials of the flagstaff and memorial shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of War, with the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts. The United States shall be put to no expense in or by the erection of such flagstaff and memorial. Upon completion thereof the Secretary of War is authorized and directed to accept, on behalf of the United States, the flagstaff and memorial, in lieu of the legacy in the will of Eliza Mackintosh Clinch Anderson Lawton, providing for the erection of a statue of General Robert Anderson at Fort Sumter."

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The following members were present:

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Mr. Delano,
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Mr. Vitale,

also Mr. H. T. Gammeter, Secretary

and Executive Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: The Minutes of the Meeting

held April 20, 1928, were approved.

2. FLAGPOLE AT FORT SUMTER, S. C.: By Act approved May 11, 1928.

(Public Resolution No. 41, 70th Congress), the sum of \$25,000 has been made

available through a bequest of Miss Mackintosh Clinch Anderson Lawton,

daughter of General Robert Anderson (Mr. Francis X. Brogan, 50 Broad Street,

New York City, being executor of the estate), for the erection of an ornamental

flagpole at Fort Sumter, S. C., as follows:

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, That the Secretary of War is authorized and directed to select a suitable site and to permit the executors of the estate of Miss Mackintosh Clinch Anderson Lawton to erect on public grounds of the United States at Fort Sumter, Charleston, South Carolina, a flagstaff, with appropriate landscape and architectural setting, and to place in connection therewith a memorial commemorating the defense of the Fort by General Robert Anderson. The design and materials of the flagstaff and memorial shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of War, with the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts. The United States shall be put to no expense in or by the erection of such flagstaff and memorial. Upon completion thereof the Secretary of War is authorized and directed to accept, on behalf of the United States, the flagstaff and memorial, in lieu of the legacy in the will of Miss Mackintosh Clinch Anderson Lawton, providing for the erection of a

statue of General Robert Anderson at Fort Sumter."

Mr. Moore said the matter has been before Congress for about three years and that at this session of Congress Hon. Thomas S. McMillan, of Charleston, S.C., had secured the favorable endorsement of the project by the people of Charleston, including the Charleston Chapter of the U. D. C., who asked that they be permitted to advise in the preparation of the memorial tablet. Mr. Moore said this would be done and that in connection with the design for the flagpole a landscape plan would be prepared.

In the consideration of the project, photographs of Fort Sumter and Charleston Harbor, which were secured from the Air Corps by the secretary, were inspected.

The Commission, after consideration, decided upon Mr. Albert Simons, of the firm of Simons and Lapham, Architects, 42 Broad Street, Charleston, S.C., as the designer of the flagpole. Mr. Moore said the Commission are familiar with his work through his design for the Marker at Charles Fort, S.C., the design for which the Commission approved and which has recently been erected.

(Exhibit A).

3. WRIGHT MEMORIAL, KITTY HAWK, N.C.: The Commission were in conference with Lieut. Col. F. B. Wheaton, and Mr. L. M. Leisenring, Architect, of the Office of the Quartermaster General, War Department, regarding the Wright Memorial, a design for which is to be prepared by competition in accordance with a provision in the War Department Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1929 (Public No. 181, page 35), as follows:

"Monument on Kill Devil Hill, Kitty Hawk, North Carolina: To commence the work preliminary to the acquisition of a suitable site, surveys, preparation of designs, and all necessary expenses incident to the erection of a monument on Kill Devil Hill at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, in commemoration of the first successful human attempt in all history at power-driven airplane flight, in accordance with the Act entitled 'An Act providing for the erection of a monument on Kill Devil Hill at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, commemorative of the first successful human attempt in history at power-driven airplane flight,' approved March 2, 1927, \$25,000: Provided, That not to exceed \$5,000 of this sum

Mr. Moore said the matter has been before Congress for about three years and that at this session of Congress Hon. Thomas S. Williams, of Charleston, S.C., had secured the favorable endorsement of the project by the people of Charleston, including the Charleston Chapter of the U. D. C., who asked that they be permitted to advise in the preparation of the memorial tablet. Mr. Moore said this would be done and that in connection with the design for the flagpole a landscape plan would be prepared.

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may be expended for the purchase of plans, drawings, and specifications for the erection of this monument by open competition, under such conditions as the commission may prescribe."

Colonel Wheaton said that the Quartermaster General's Office understands some sketches have been prepared for a new Coast Guard building at Kitty Hawk, by the Supervising Architect's Office of the Treasury Department, under the authorization act of March 2, 1927, above mentioned, creating the Wright Memorial Commission, and asked whether these plans were still being considered. Mr. Moore thereupon informed Col. Wheaton of the previous action of the Commission regarding these preliminary plans for the Wright Memorial,--that they were submitted to the Commission at the meeting on March 8, 1928, and disapproved, not only because the plans called for an ordinary building, but also because the Commission regarded it contrary to the intent of Congress to provide a reconstructed Coast Guard station for the Wright Memorial. Mr. Moore said at the time the Commission was in conference with Hon. Lindsay C. Warren, a member of Congress from the Kitty Hawk district, and that it was through him that authority has now been secured from Congress for securing plans and beginning on the Memorial. It has been suggested that the Memorial be a light tower, but this is still to be finally determined, as a light house exists about 19 miles on each side of the site at Kill Devil's Hill, where the flight was made. Mr. Moore stated that Representative Warren was in favor of a light tower with possibly a museum connected with it; that notwithstanding reports that the place is inaccessible, the North Carolina Highway Commission is giving particular attention to the roads to Kitty Hawk, which is only 40 miles from Norfolk, Virginia, and about 10 miles from the Virginia Dare Memorial. The understanding has been that the memorial is to cost \$100,000, though no definite amount has been finally determined. Representative Warren is

may be expended for the purchase of plans, drawings, and specifications for the erection of this monument by open competition, under such conditions as the commission may prescribe."

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some sketches have been prepared for a new Coast Guard building at Kitty Hawk,

by the Supervising Architect's Office of the Treasury Department, under the

authorization act of March 2, 1927, above mentioned, erecting the Wright

Memorial Commission, and asked whether these plans were still being considered.

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Commission regarding these preliminary plans for the Wright Memorial,--that

they were submitted to the Commission at the meeting on March 8, 1928, and

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provide a reconstructed Coast Guard station for the Wright Memorial. Mr. Moore

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a member of Congress from the Kitty Hawk district, and that it was through him

that authority has now been secured from Congress for securing plans and

beginning on the Memorial. It has been suggested that the Memorial be a light

tower, but this is still to be finally determined, as a light house exists

about 12 miles on each side of the site at Kill Devil's Hill, where the light

was made. Mr. Moore stated that Representative Warren was in favor of a

light tower with possibly a museum connected with it; that notwithstanding

reports that the place is inaccessible, the North Carolina Highway Commission

is giving particular attention to the roads to Kitty Hawk, which is only 40

miles from Norfolk, Virginia, and about 10 miles from the Virginia Dare Memorial.

The understanding has been that the memorial is to cost \$100,000, though no

definite amount has been finally determined. Representative Warren is

considering "a memorial to cost between two hundred and two hundred and fifty thousand dollars" (Exhibit B-1).

The Commission considered the question of competition for the memorial under the provision of the War Department Appropriation Act heretofore stated, and decided that if such a competition is to be held it would be necessary to know definitely the character of the Memorial and the amount of money to be made available for it,-this for the information of the competitors. It was agreed that the Commission take up this matter with Representative Warren, whereupon the Quartermaster General's Office could prepare a program of competition similar to the one which is now pending for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. (Exhibit B, B-1, and B-2).

4. STATUE TO GENERAL ARTEMAS WARD: Mr. Moore stated that by Act approved May 21, 1928 (Public Resolution No.48, 70th Congress), Congress has given the president and fellows of Harvard College authority to erect a statue to General Artemas Ward, in Washington, as follows:

"RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, That the Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital be, and he ~~is~~ hereby is authorized and directed to select a suitable site and to grant permission to the president and fellows of Harvard College to erect, as a gift to the people of the United States, on public grounds of the United States in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, a monument in memory of Major General Artemas Ward commemorative of the services rendered by him to his country during the war of Independence: Provided, That the site chosen and the design of the memorial shall be approved by the Commission of Fine Arts, that it shall be erected under the supervision of the Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital, and that the United States shall be put to no expense in or by the erection of the monument."

Mr. Moore said that Mr. Artemas Ward, Jr., of New York City had been in Washington to inspect a suggested location for the monument and that he did not favor placing the monument so far out as Massachusetts and Nebraska Avenues, NW.

considering "a memorial to cost between two hundred and two hundred and

fifty thousand dollars" (Exhibit B-1).

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stated, and decided that it such a competition is to be held it would be

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of money to be made available for it,--this for the information of the

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Mr. Moore said that Mr. Arthur Ward, Jr., of New York City had been

in Washington to inspect a suggested location for the monument and that he did

not favor placing the monument so far out as Massachusetts and Nebraska Avenues, N.W.

as had been recommended by the Commission at the meeting on April 20th. It was noted that the question of site is to be determined by the Commission of Fine Arts, according to the Act.

Consideration was given to the question of sculptor for the statue and the Commission recommended Mr. Edmond R. Amatais, or Mr. Thomas H. Jones, sculptors, of New York City. Mr. Moore said the authorities of Harvard College had given him authority to act for them in the matter.

5. NEW BOAT HOUSE, TIDAL BASIN: By letter dated May 11, 1928, Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital, requested further advice in the matter of plans for the new Boat House, to be erected at the Tidal Basin, as follows:

May 11, 1928.

"My dear Mr. Moore:

From your letter of May 2, 1928, I gather that there has been some misunderstanding about the boat house on the Tidal Basin. The situation is that the present boat house is in such bad condition that it would have to be rebuilt. Moreover it is so small that it does not afford much needed accommodation for storage of model boats, fishing paraphernalia, etc. nor even space to keep the empty bottles and other litter that inevitably results from the operation of the little soft drink counter. Moreover a very real need has been found for toilet facilities in this vicinity. It appeared to me that the present building was not susceptible of enlargement and that a new building would be preferable.

The designs of the new building were based upon the theory of providing this minimum needed space in a temporary building of the least conspicuous character, which was the policy adopted by your Commission when the original building was approved. The ridge of the roof was intentionally lowered, after our first design was made, in order to make the building less conspicuous and keep it from sticking up over the bank and interrupting the view of the Tidal Basin water as seen by persons on 17th Street and on the park drive to the West. A permanent building, such as the Hains Point Tea House at this point would appear to be undesirably conspicuous and unnecessarily expensive, in view of the likelihood of the north part of the Tidal Basin being filled in eventually to carry through B Street south or some extension thereof. Moreover the money is not available for a more expensive type of building than the one suggested. As already suggested in getting an appropriation for such a temporary and inconspicuous building I believed that I was carrying out the policies adopted by your Commission in the past.

It is manifestly too late to secure an appropriation for

as had been recommended by the Commission at the meeting on April 30th. It was noted that the question of site is to be determined by the Commission of Fine Arts, according to the Act.

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5. NEW BOAT HOUSE, TIDAL BASIN: By letter dated May 11, 1932, Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 56, Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital, requested further advice in the matter of plans for the new Boat House, to be erected at the Tidal Basin, as follows:

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From your letter of May 8, 1932, I gather that there has been some misunderstanding about the boat house on the Tidal Basin. The situation is that the present boat house is in such bad condition that it would have to be rebuilt. Moreover it is so small that it does not afford much needed accommodation for storage of model boats, fishing paraphernalia, etc., nor even space to keep the empty bottles and other litter that inevitably results from the operation of the little soft drink counter. Moreover a very real need has been found for toilet facilities in this vicinity. It appeared to me that the present building was not susceptible of enlargement and that a new building would be preferable.

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It is manifestly too late to secure an appropriation for

another kind of a building now, and personally I could not recommend it for the reasons already stated. I therefore ask whether your Commission would approve the plans as made, or whether you would approve plans for a similar building with some slight changes? The question of a larger porch has been considered and the experience of this office is that the porch proposed will be much more comfortable and useful to the public because it will protect the public against the wind which is almost always blowing around the Tidal Basin. Should a large porch along the entire front of the building be thought desirable, it can always be added in the future.

Yours truly,

U. S. Grant 3d,

Director."

Major J. C. Mehaffey, Executive Assistant to Col. Grant, resubmitted the plans for the Boat House. The architect members of the Commission inspected the plans and felt that an improvement could be made in them. Mr. Moore said he had been particularly anxious to have a large open porch built, that he thought the design for the boat house was too ordinary, and that it should be given further study; that he regarded the tea house at Hains Point very suitable for the park and wished something on that order could be built there. Major Mehaffey said that the design for the boat house had not been made particularly fine so as not to detract from the John Paul Jones monument in the immediate vicinity, and because there is only a limited appropriation available for it.

The Commission decided to refer the plans to Mr. Morris for study and advice. (Exhibit C).

6. ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE: The Commission were in conference with Mr. Wm. Mitchell Kendall, representing the firm of McKim, Mead and White, Architects, and Major J. C. Mehaffey, Executive Assistant, of the Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission, regarding the Arlington Memorial Bridge, and gave special consideration to the pylons. Two full-sized sketch models of the pylons had been erected at the Lincoln Memorial Plaza, one at the Bridge entrance, the other at the entrance to the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. The Commission inspected the pylons on the grounds,--from the Bridge, and from the stylobate

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Yours truly,
U. S. Grant 3d,
Director."

Major J. C. McHaffey, Executive Assistant to Col. Grant, resubmitted

the plans for the Post House. The architect members of the Commission inspected the plans and felt that an improvement could be made in them. Mr. Moore said he had been particularly anxious to have a large open porch built, that he thought the design for the post house was too ordinary, and that it should be given further study; that he regarded the tea house at Hains Point very suitable for the park and wished something on that order could be built there. Major McHaffey said that the design for the post house had not been made particularly fine so as not to detract from the John Paul Jones monument in the immediate vicinity, and because there is only a limited appropriation available for it. The Commission decided to refer the plans to Mr. Morris for study

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special consideration to the pylons. Two full-sized sketch models of the

pylons had been erected at the Lincoln Memorial Plaza, one at the bridge entrance,

the other at the entrance to the Hook Greek and Potomac Parkway. The Commission

inspected the pylons on the grounds,--from the bridge, and from the stylobate

of the Lincoln Memorial; also from the river, in a launch furnished by Major Mehaffey. The Commission generally agreed, and Mr. Kendall concurred, that the pylons were too large, and Mr. Kendall said he would make a restudy of them with a view to reducing them in scale. Also, the Commission felt the pylons in relation to the Bridge were possibly appropriate, but in relation to the Lincoln Memorial they were much too large. Mr. Kendall called attention to the fact that these pylons are to be Memorial features, and in the reduction of them this will have to be taken into consideration.

The Commission also considered with Mr. Charles W. Eliot 2d, City Planner of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, a suggested plan prepared by him, which had the endorsement of that Commission, for the treatment of the Virginia terminus of the Bridge. The plan suggested a modification of the original "Columbia Island Plaza Plan", with diverging roads to the north, south, and west, by suggesting a rather direct approach to the Bridge and thus contracting the plaza; also the allée into the Arlington National Cemetery, as proposed, was shortened. The Commission favored rather adherence to the original plan of the allée.

Mr. Eliot brought up the question of small bridges for these various roadways which are to cross the channel, and the question was discussed whether or not this channel should be filled in. It was pointed out, however, that the Chief of Engineer's Office had kept the channel open during the years by dredging so as to avoid any question of ownership of Columbia Island by the State of Virginia. (According to the Common Law the United States Government owns the land on the Virginia side of the river to the high water mark). During the inspection in the afternoon the Commission made a trip through the channel in a launch, and thereupon it was unanimously decided that the channel should not be filled in because of its attractiveness for boating purposes in connection

of the Lincoln Memorial; also from the river, in a launch furnished by Major Meade. The Commission generally agreed, and Mr. Kendall concurred, that the pylons were too large, and Mr. Kendall said he would make a study of them with a view to reducing them in scale. Also, the Commission felt the pylons in relation to the Bridge were possibly appropriate, but in relation to the Lincoln Memorial they were much too large. Mr. Kendall called attention to the fact that these pylons are to be Memorial features, and in the reduction of them this will have to be taken into consideration.

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with the island. The vast amount of granite for the Arlington Memorial Bridge on the Virginia shore was noted, and Major Mehaffey said it was the largest "stone yard" of its kind in the country at the present time.

Consideration was given to the type of bridges to cross the channel, and it was recommended that these simple but in keeping with the Arlington Memorial Bridge. The designs are to be submitted to the Commission in due time.

In considering the traffic road from the Key Bridge to the Highway Bridge, it was suggested that, to save expense, the arch under the Virginia terminus of the Arlington Memorial Bridge be wide enough so that a traffic road could parallel the railroad; however, no cut for the highway is to be made until such time as the existing roadway from Rosslyn extending along the east side of the Arlington National Cemetery, between the Cemetery and the Arlington Farms, be removed, as not until then was such a road parallel to the railroad track in the cut regarded necessary.

Consideration was given to the Lee Highway entrance to the Arlington Memorial Bridge. Mr. Eliot pointed out that the line of the route along the north side of the Arlington National Cemetery adjacent to Fort Myer was preferred by the Lee Highway Association, because of the vista of Washington obtained from Arlington Heights. Mr. Moore said there is no question about the vista, nor no objection on the part of the Commission to putting in this roadway, but he thought for practical purposes the roadway now extending along the west and south side of the Arlington National Cemetery should be improved, as it can be improved without much expense, and is the quickest approach to Washington by way of the Arlington Memorial Bridge.

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7. MERIDIAN HILL PARK, LOWER GARDEN: The Commission considered plans submitted by Mr. H. W. Peaslee, Architect, through the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks, for the Lower Garden of Meridian Hill Park.

Mr. Vitale reported that the plans carried out the suggestions made at previous meetings of the Commission and at a special Committee meeting held in New York City on May 7th, which was attended by Mr. Platt, Mr. Morris, Mr. Peaslee and himself. At that meeting the plans for the Lower Garden were made the subject of special consideration. At the meeting the suggestion of Mr. Platt was adopted to change the character of the exedra from a walled structure to a parapet; the exedra was considered in relation to the Armillary Sphere designed by Mr. Manship and suggested for a place at the foot of the Cascades in the Lower Garden. It is proposed to develop alternating solid panels with seats and open balustrade sections, similar to the Villa Borghese in Rome. The form of the exedra was changed from elliptical to a near-semicircle. In order to fit the design of the exedra into the garden scheme, a seat-high coping, similar to the pool coping, is called for,--around the garden. The breaks in the outline of the pool which, like the high exedra, have been part of the plan from the beginning, have been eliminated to the betterment of the design. However, the pool will be somewhat enriched by the addition of posts and urns as at the Villa d'Este, in Tivoli, with perhaps two types of coping. The pavement mosaic has been simplified by the elimination of border lines which carried across the field. The much changed fore-court to the garden has finally been brought down to a mere crossing of the two walks with consequent thickening of the tree-hedge mass. The change in the location of walks to the cascade service entrance permits planting immediately against curving walls of ascents from the Lower Garden to the Cascades. The planting plan submitted to the Commission on April 20th will thus be changed accordingly. The retaining wall seat was generally approved, although it was suggested that the seat would be used more if heavy slats were substituted for the cold concrete. This would mean construction of recesses rather than seats, with pedestals upon which sectional seats could be placed--perhaps to be removed in winter.

There was some discussion about the material of the Buchanan Memorial, and a sample of pink granite (Balfour pink) was shown, in which the flanking statues of the Memorial have been cut. The use of this granite was favored for the entire monument.

The plan submitted by Mr. Peaslee was given careful consideration and approved with the suggestion that planting areas be provided between the detached seats of the exedra and enlarging upon the mosaic frame of the proposed Manship dial; also to extend the enframing holly planting so as to form a pleached archway over the walk south of the exedra.

submitted by Mr. H. W. Peaslee, Architect, through the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks, for the Lower Garden of Memorial Hill Park.

Mr. Vitale reported that the plans carried out the suggestions made at previous meetings of the Commission and at a special Committee meeting held in New York City on May 7th, which was attended by Mr. Platt, Mr. Morris, Mr. Peaslee and himself. At that meeting the plans for the Lower Garden were made the subject of special consideration. At the meeting the suggestion of Mr. Platt was adopted to change the character of the exedra from a walled structure to a parapet; the exedra was considered in relation to the Armillary Sphere designed by Mr. Manship and suggested for a place at the foot of the Cascades in the Lower Garden. It is proposed to develop alternating solid panels with seats and open balustrade sections, similar to the Villa Borghese in Rome. The form of the exedra was changed from elliptical to a near-semicircle. In order to fit the design of the exedra into the garden scheme, a seat-high coping, similar to the pool coping, is called for around the garden. The breaks in the outline of the pool which, like the high exedra, have been part of the plan from the beginning, have been eliminated to the betterment of the design. However, the pool will be somewhat enriched by the addition of posts and urns as at the Villa d'Este, in Italy, with perhaps two types of coping. The pavement mosaic has been simplified by the elimination of border lines which carried across the field. The much changed fore-court to the garden has finally been brought down to a mere crossing of the two walks with consequent thickening of the tree-hedge mass. The change in the location of walks to the cascade service entrance permits planting immediately against curving walls of ascents from the Lower Garden to the Cascades. The planting plan submitted to the Commission on April 30th will thus be changed accordingly. The retaining wall seat was generally approved, although it was suggested that the seat would be used more if heavy slabs were substituted for the cold concrete. This would mean construction of recesses rather than seats, with pedestals upon which sectional seats could be placed--perhaps to be removed in winter.

There was some discussion about the material of the Buchanan Memorial, and a sample of pink granite (Balfour pink) was shown, in which the flanking statues of the Memorial have been cut. The use of this granite was favored for the entire monument.

The plan submitted by Mr. Peaslee was given careful consideration and

approved with the suggestion that planting areas be provided between the detached seats of the exedra and enlarging upon the mosaic frame of the proposed Manship dial; also to extend the enfolding holly planting as to form a pleached archway over the walk south of the exedra.

The planting plan for the Lower Garden of Meridian Hill Park, prepared by Mr. Irving W. Payne, Landscape Architect, of the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks, and submitted in behalf of that Office at the meeting of the Commission on April 20th, was approved with a few suggestions. The plan submitted was a revised plan based on Mr. Vitale's original plan for Sections 1 and 2, dated October 4, 1920; the new plan was made necessary owing to the redesign of the architectural treatment of the boundary walls, entrances and interior details. In general, the types and heights of plants selected were similar in character to those used in the original planting plan. This was done in order to maintain the conception of the original design, so far as possible. With this feeling in mind the evergreen shrubs, vines and trees were used so far as consistently possible.

Mr. Vitale recommended the substitution of Pyracantha coccinea for Tilia vulgaris, owing to the relatively small amount of space in the soil pockets located directly to the rear of the balustrade, facing the southeast and southwest corner entrances formed by the intersection of W Street with 15th and 16th Streets. A further change recommended by Mr. Vitale was the use of various sized dwarf Box at the lowest 16th Street entrance, adjacent to the sidewalk, in order to overcome the ~~in~~ visual illusion of height differences in the elevation of the entrance piers and walls. This was also incorporated in the plan by using 2-3' ~~p~~ taller plants at the right entrance planting group. In addition, strong stocky evergreen vines were recommended by Mr. Vitale to obviate loss by "collectors".

When the Commission visited Meridian Hill Park on April 20th there was some difference of opinion as to the alternate designs offered for urns. Mr. Taft favored the graceful lines of the model; other members thought the cut-out design, chunkier in form, was more in scale with the posts. A new design,

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enlarging the model proportions to fit the posts, was approved by Mr. Vitale, and on his recommendation by the Commission.

The Commission approved the use of Balfour Pink Granite (which is secured from the Harris Granite Quarries Company of Salisbury, N.C.) for the entire monument, with the understanding that it will be given a honed finish, instead of a highly polished finish. However, the Buchanan statue will be in bronze. General Riggs, Chairman of the Buchanan Memorial Committee, was informed accordingly.

The Commission considered the question of planting trees on the Grand Terrace without further delay. The possibility of transplanting some of the elm trees that will have to be taken out to make way for the Arlington Memorial Bridge Plaza at the Lincoln Memorial was suggested. Mr. Vitale said if this is done a tree expert should pass on the adaptability of transplanting trees as those that have been growing in low land to high land. Major Mehafeey said he would regret to see trees planted on the Grand Terrace pending final construction work of the terrace, but said he thought the outer row of trees along the north side of the Grand Terrace could be planted now. The Commission felt this would be a splendid beginning and be an added step towards the completion of the park. It was stated that to transplant a tree 10 or 12 inches in diameter would cost about \$400 each. Mr. Vitale said to transplant good elm trees 5 or 6 inches in diameter should not cost more than \$70 each.

An inspection of Meridian Hill Park, during which particular attention to the Lower Garden was given, was made by the Commission in the afternoon.
(Exhibit D)

8. DEDICATION OF THE COAST GUARD MEMORIAL. Mr. Moore reported that yesterday afternoon, May 23d, the Coast Guard Memorial, designed by Mr. George Howe, architect, of Philadelphia, was dedicated in Arlington National Cemetery.

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An inspection of Mexican Hill Park, during which particular attention to the lower garden was given, was made by the Commission in the afternoon.

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8. DEDICATION OF THE COAST GUARD MEMORIAL. Mr. Moore reported that yesterday afternoon, May 23d, the Coast Guard Memorial, designed by Mr. George Howe, architect, of Philadelphia, was dedicated in Arlington National Cemetery.

The design consists of a marble pyramid (10 feet on a side) on a Stony Creek granite base, with a 34 foot circle of paving. In front of it rests a bronze sea gull, measuring 5 feet from tip to tip, designed by Gaston Lachaise, sculptor. The distinctive emblem of the Coast Guard Service appears on the front of the memorial and the names of the 192 officers and men of the Coast Guard, who lost their lives in the World War, are carved on the sides of the pyramid. The pyramid, silhouetted against a background of evergreen, is designed to represent the rocky ledges of the American sea coast rising out of the water, and the beacons marking dangers to navigation, and is to symbolize the stability and endurance of the Coast Guard, while the sea gull is to remind one of the sea. The Memorial has a semi-circular background of evergreen trees and shrubbery, which gives the Memorial a beautiful setting.

Mr. Moore said the Memorial is a departure from existing monuments in Arlington and strikes a new note that has met with satisfaction.

An inspection of the monument was made by the Commission in the afternoon. Mr. Vitale thought an additional row of cedars back of the memorial would improve the planting considerably, as one row of trees is too thin.

9. MONUMENT TO FLOYD BENNETT, ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY: Mr. Delano asked concerning the erection of a proposed monument to Floyd Bennett, Warrant Officer, U. S. Navy, who died in Canada recently in the attempt to bring relief to the transAtlantic flyers of the airship Bremen, near Labrador, and who was buried in Arlington National Cemetery on April 27, 1928. Mr. Delano said he had recently been called upon in New York for advice on the subject.

Mr. Moore said that the regulations at Arlington regarding the erection of memorials there were prepared with the advice of this Commission, and that it was agreed no memorial should be more than 5 feet high and 7 feet long; in

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a few instances, such as the Coast Guard Memorial, or a memorial to an "illustrious American" who is to be signally honored (as Rear Admiral Peary), an exception has been made by special grant of the Secretary of War, who also allots the ground for such memorial. Mr. Moore said that those persons desiring to erect a memorial to Floyd Bennett in Arlington should take up the matter with the Secretary of War,--that in regular course the question of design for it would come before this Commission, through the Office of the Quartermaster General of the War Department.

10. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WORLD WAR MEMORIAL, BAND STAND: The Commission gave further consideration to the location of the District of Columbia World War Memorial,--a marble Bandstand to be erected in Pptomac Park.

Mr. Moore called attention to the Mall Plan of 1901, which shows features on both north and south side of the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Basin, and said he did not think it exactly right to place the Memorial in Potomac Park anywhere".

Mr. Delano said the location decided upon is in a grove of trees and he doubted if a better location could be found for it in that locality. In connection with the Mall Plan, the "Howard Plan" for the Mall development was then inspected, which showed changes in the Mall scheme and features that seemed to alter somewhat the Plan of 1901 for this locality. The question was raised whether a survey could be mde for possible future guidance so as to show the Bandstand on the south side of the Reflecting Basin in axial relation to a proposed feature on the north side of the Basin. It was agreed to ask Col. Grant to make such a survey. (Exhibit E).

11. HENRY CLAY STATUE: By Act approved February 24, 1927, (Public No. 637, 69th Congress), authority was given by Congress to erect a statue of Henry Clay in the city of Caracas, Venezuela, as follows:

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, That the Secretary of State is authorized and directed to procure, to present to the Republic of Venezuela, and to erect in the city of Caracas, Venezuela, a bronze statue of Henry Clay. Such statue shall be prepared and erected only after the plans and specifications therefor have been submitted to, and approved by, the Commission of Fine Arts, and shall be the work of an American artist.

SEC. 2. There is authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$41,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to carry out the provisions of this Act, including the cost of such statue, of transportation, of grading the site, and of building the pedestal, expenditures for architectural services, and traveling expenses of the persons employed in erecting such statue, and of the persons delegated by the Secretary of State to present, on behalf of the United States, such statue to the Republic of Venezuela."

The secretary said that Hon. Virgil Chapman, House of Representatives, from Kentucky, had intended to be present~~ed~~ at this Meeting of the Commission, as he is much interested in this statue, but the fact that Congress is about to adjourn doubtless prevented his being here and that he nevertheless desires the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts in this matter. The Department of State appropriation act for the fiscal year 1929 (Public No. 32, 70th Congress, page 14) makes the \$41,000 available as follows:

STATUE OF HENRY CLAY IN CARACAS, VENEZUELA.

"To enable the Secretary of State to procure, to present to the Republic of Venezuela, and to erect in the city of Caracas, Venezuela, a bronze statue of Henry Clay, as provided ~~in~~ by Public Act Numbered 637, approved February 24, 1927, including travel, subsistence, or per diem in lieu of subsistence, \$41,000."

The Commission, in the consideration of the project, felt that here is an opportunity for a distinctive work of art, and a man should be selected for it who would be in sympathy with the work and produce a satisfactory result. The Commission, after consideration, decided upon Edward McCartan, Sculptor (225 East 67th Street), New York City. The matter is to be taken up with the Department of State at an early date.

12. "BOARD OF TRADE MEDAL": By letter dated May 18, 1928, Mr. H. W. Peaslee, Architect, asked the cooperation of the Commission of Fine Arts in the matter of

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STATUE OF HENRY CLAY IN CARACAS, VENEZUELA.
"To enable the Secretary of State to procure, to present to the Republic of Venezuela, and to erect in the city of Caracas, Venezuela, a bronze statue of Henry Clay, as provided in by Public Act Numbered 637, approved February 24, 1937, including travel, subsistence, or per diem in lieu of subsistence, \$41,000."

The Commission, in the consideration of the project, felt that there is an opportunity for a distinctive work of art, and a man should be selected for it who would be in sympathy with the work and produce a satisfactory result. The Commission, after consideration, decided upon Edward McGarran, Sculptor (223 East 57th Street, New York City. The matter is to be taken up with the Department of State at an early date.

12. "BOARD OF TRADE MEDAL": By letter dated May 18, 1933, Mr. H.W. Tinsley, Architect, asked the cooperation of the Commission of Fine Arts in the matter of

awarding a medal given by the Washington Board of Trade for meritorious buildings, as follows:

May 18, 1928.

"Dear Mr. Moore:

You of course know about the Board of Trade awards for meritorious buildings. At a meeting yesterday afternoon of the committee having the matter in charge, two or three suggestions were made which may interest you, not unfavorably, I hope.

The medal awarded is not so good. It was proposed that it be redesigned and submitted to the Fine Arts Commission for approval.

A bronze medal is awarded in each of several different classes. It seemed to me that after these medal winners had been picked by a jury, it would tremendously stimulate interest in better building if the Fine Arts Commission would look over these winners and commend one to the Board of Trade as the "best all-around dog" for the award of a silver medal. The Board has not yet taken action, but I have been authorized to get the reactions of the Commission to the idea. Will the Commission cooperate? This happens only every two years.

Sincerely yours,
Horace W. Peaslee."

Mr. Moore said he had informed Mr. Peaslee that any medal awarded ought to be a work of art, and that he felt the Commission would cooperate in the matter.

The Commission, after consideration, decided that it would not be well for the Commission of Fine Arts to act as a jury of award, but that the Commission would be pleased to help the local chapter of the American Institute of Architects in the matter of design for the medal and assist them in the selection of a satisfactory design for award.

13. ADVERTISING SIGNS FOR UNITED CIGAR STORE, at 14th St. and Pa. Ave:

Mr. W. G. Birch, of Mt. Rainier, Md., submitted sketches for signs to be placed on the new United Cigar Store building at 14th and Pennsylvania Ave., by the Venus Restaurant Company, which will occupy the second floor. The signs are to be 16 feet long, and will be placed over the projecting show

awarding a medal given by the Washington Board of Trade for meritorious

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windows (one on Pennsylvania Avenue and the other on Fourteenth Street), and will be lighted by electricity.

The Commission inspected the sketches and in the first regretted the placing of the signs on the building, as they would detract from the appearance of it. On the other hand, if erected, the Commission said the signs should be more "snappy".

The Commission considered the question of advertising signs generally and said in their opinion they seemed to be unnecessary for a good business establishment.

14. NATIONAL ARBORETUM: Mr. Moore reported that he has been reliably informed that the Secretary of Agriculture will proceed with the purchase of the land in northeast Washington for a National Arboretum, for which Congress has appropriated \$300,000; that about 175 acres can be purchased for this sum, and that this area will be joined to about 600 acres of the Anacostia Park area in this locality, which will be made available for Arboretum purposes. Mr. Moore said that of about 80 remaining acres in the original layout, which is being assessed at about \$700 an acre, some of the owners are asking about \$5,000 an acre for it, though until the Arboretum project developed much of the land was regarded worthless for building purposes, as now claimed. Mr. Moore said that the plans provide that the National Arboretum will be connected with the Washington Plan by a Boulevard.

15. MOUNT VERNON BOULEVARD: The secretary stated that Congress has passed the bill for the Mount Vernon Boulevard, approved by the President May 23, 1928 (Public No. 493, 70th Congress), EXHIBIT F; that the selection of the route has been left with the George Washington Bicentennial Commission, though it is generally felt that the "River Route", favored by the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, will be

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15. MOUNT VERNON BOULEVARD: The secretary stated that Congress has passed the bill for the Mount Vernon Boulevard, approved by the President May 28, 1928 (Public No. 498, 70th Congress), EXHIBIT E, that the selection of the route has been left with the George Washington Bicentennial Commission, though it is generally felt that the "River Route", favored by the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, will be

adopted, in preference to the "Back road" route from Washington to Mount Vernon. The Mount Vernon Boulevard is to be built by the Bureau of Public Roads of the Department of Agriculture, and the Second Deficiency Appropriation Act, approved May 29, 1928 (Public No. 563, 70th Congress, page 14), appropriates \$2,500,000, out of a total of \$4,500,000. As the surveys have been made quite fully, it is thought the Boulevard will be fairly complete by 1932, when it would be a feature of the George Washington Bicentennial Celebration.

16. THE CAPITOL GROUNDS AND MALL DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Moore called attention to the Bill pending in Congress, H.R., 13929, providing for the enlargement of the Capitol Grounds and the improvement of the Union Station Plaza, with a new "Avenue" direct from the Union Station southwest to about the intersection of Second Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, involving also a rearrangement of the street car lines in this locality, a terrace on the north side of the Capitol Grounds, and providing also for the treatment of the west side of the Capitol Grounds and the development of Union Square at the head of the Mall.

The Bill was amended, at Mr. Moore's suggestion to provide, in section 5, as passed by the House of Representatives on May 28, 1928 (Exhibit G), for the development of the Mall from the Capitol to the Washington Monument, and had it not been for the fact that Congress adjourned the next day it is certain the Bill would have passed the Senate. As it is, this legislation will come before the Senate at the next session in December.

The plans for this improvement were prepared by Mr. Wm. E. Parsons, Architect, of Chicago, under the Direction of Mr. David Lynn, Architect of the Capitol, and with the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

17. WASHINGTON MONUMENT GROUNDS: Mr. Moore brought to the attention of the Commission a tentative sketch for the development of the Washington Monument Grounds

adopted, in preference to the "Back road" route from Washington to Mount Vernon. The Mount Vernon Boulevard is to be built by the Bureau of Public Roads of the Department of Agriculture, and the Second Deficiency Appropriation Act, approved May 29, 1938 (Public No. 568, 76th Congress, page 14) appropriates \$2,500,000, out of a total of \$4,500,000. As the surveys have been made

quite fully, it is thought the Boulevard will be fairly complete by 1938, when it would be a feature of the George Washington Bicentennial Celebration. 16. THE CAPITOL GROUNDS AND MALL DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Moore called attention to the Bill pending in Congress, H.R. 15929, providing for the enlargement of the Capitol Grounds and the improvement of the Union Station Plaza, with a new "Avenue" direct from the Union Station southwest to about the intersection of Second Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, involving also a rearrangement of the street car lines in this locality, a terrace on the north side of the Capitol Grounds, and providing also for the treatment of the west side of the Capitol Grounds and the development of Union Square at the head of the Mall.

The Bill was amended, at Mr. Moore's suggestion to provide, in section 3, as passed by the House of Representatives on May 28, 1938 (Exhibit G), for the development of the Mall from the Capitol to the Washington Monument, and had it not been for the fact that Congress adjourned the next day it is certain the Bill would have passed the Senate. As it is, this legislation will come before the Senate at the next session in December.

The plans for this improvement were prepared by Mr. W. E. Parsons, architect, of Chicago, under the direction of Mr. David Lynn, Architect of the Capitol, and with the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

IV. WASHINGTON MONUMENT GROUNDS: Mr. Moore brought to the attention of the Commission a tentative sketch for the development of the Washington Monument grounds

prepared and submitted by Mr. Wm. E. Parsons, Architect, of Chicago, with a memorandum, as follows:

"The Permanent Seat on the Bank of the Potomac
(Title of L'Enfant Plan)

The most striking thing in L'Enfant's original plan is the city's place on the "Bank of the Potomac."

The Plan of Washington is built upon two axes, fixed by the Capitol and the White House, meeting at the Monument Gardens, both axes extending unobstructed to the River. By this means the "Congress Garden" and the "President's Park", to use L'Enfant's terms, extend to the river frontage, with unobstructed views across the ~~ri~~ water. L'Enfant felt the great value of the close relation between the Federal City and the Potomac River and develops this relationship to the fullest extent, taking advantage of the bend of the river. At that time the bank of the Potomac followed eastward along the line of B Street N.W. to 17th Street, thence along the present line of Twining Lake, so that when President Washington and L'Enfant stood on the knoll where the Monument now stands and chose this spot for the central point of the composition, they were within a stone's throw of the Potomac River.

When the Park Commission began the study of the plan in 1901 they found the northern bank of the Potomac far removed from the line of L'Enfant's Plan. Having no alternative but to accept this condition, they planned to extend the formal gardens of both axes to the river's new line, proposing a structure to close the end of each axis, one the Lincoln Memorial approximately as now built, the other a structure to commemorate the Constitution. Since then the proposal to place here the Roosevelt Memorial has resulted in the selection of an excellent design, the chief merit of which lies in the fact that although Lake Twining is eliminated, the axis is left open so that an unobstructed vista from the White House and from the Monument Gardens to the South is maintained.

The main axis has been permanently closed by the Lincoln Memorial. The cross-axis should not be closed but should be left open and the shores of Twining Lake so adjusted and rectified as to bring the water element closer into the formal composition of the Mall and the Monument Gardens.

In similar large compositions, the main axis is left open reaching out to sea or to the distant level land as at Versailles. The eye is drawn irresistably through long vistas to the open and distant blue spaces beyond.

It would be well at this time to revert again to L'Enfant's Plan which has been carefully guarded in all respects save this most vital one.

Chicago, Ill.,
April 17, 1928.

W. E. P."

The Commission took the sketch under consideration, in connection with the scheme for the treatment of the Washington Monument Gardens of the Plan of 1901.

prepared and submitted by Mr. Wm. B. Parsons, Architect, of Chicago, with
a memorandum, as follows:

"The Permanent Seat on the Bank of the Potomac
(Title of L'Enfant's Plan)"

The most striking thing in L'Enfant's original plan is the
city's place on the "Bank of the Potomac."

The Plan of Washington is built upon two axes, fixed by
the Capitol and the White House, meeting at the Monument Gardens,
both axes extending unobstructed to the River. By this means the
"Congress Garden" and the "President's Park" to use L'Enfant's
terms, extend to the river frontage, with unobstructed views across
the water. L'Enfant felt the great value of the close relation
between the Federal City and the Potomac River and developed this
relationship to the fullest extent, taking advantage of the bend
of the river. At that time the bank of the Potomac followed
eastward along the line of B Street N.W. to 17th Street, thence
along the present line of Twining Lake, so that when President
Washington and L'Enfant stood on the knoll where the Monument now
stands and chose this spot for the central point of the composition,
they were within a stone's throw of the Potomac River.

When the Park Commission began the study of the plan in 1901
they found the northern bank of the Potomac far removed from the
line of L'Enfant's Plan. Having no alternative but to accept this
condition, they planned to extend the formal gardens of both axes
to the river's new line, proposing a structure to close the end
of each axis, one the Lincoln Memorial approximately as now built,
the other a structure to commemorate the Constitution. Since then the
proposal to place here the Roosevelt Memorial has resulted in the
selection of an excellent design, the chief merit of which lies in
the fact that although Lake Twining is eliminated, the axis is left
open so that an unobstructed vista from the White House and from the
Monument Gardens to the South is maintained.

The main axis has been permanently closed by the Lincoln Memorial.
The cross-axis should not be closed but should be left open and the
shores of Twining Lake so adjusted and rectified as to bring the water
element closer into the formal composition of the Mall and the
Monument Gardens.

In similar large compositions, the main axis is left open reaching
out to sea or to the distant level land as at Versailles. The eye is
drawn irresistibly through long vistas to the open and distant blue
spaces beyond.

It would be well at this time to revert again to L'Enfant's Plan
which has been carefully guarded in all respects save this most vital one.

W. B. P.

Chicago, Ill.,
April 17, 1928.

The Commission took the sketch under consideration, in connection with

the scheme for the treatment of the Washington Monument Gardens of the

Mr. Moore said a Bill, introduced in Congress by Hon. George Holden Tinkham, of Massachusetts, (H.R.11208, of February 20, 1928), contemplates the improvement of the Washington Monument Grounds, as recommended in the Plan of 1901, and that he attended a Hearing on the Bill on May 11, 1928 (Exhibit H); that engineers regard the project feasible, and that he felt it should be carried out while the rest of the Mall and the Public Buildings program for the Triangle is being developed, as it is an essential part of the Mall Plan.

In conclusion, the Commission expressed their appreciation of the favorable action taken by Congress at this Session on so many of the projects for the development of the National Capital, and felt that with the passage of this pending legislation at the next Session, the essentials of the L'Enfant Plan and the Plan of 1901 may be regarded as adopted.

The Commission adjourned at 5:45 p.m. The Commission had as their guests at luncheon, Mr. Kendall, Major Mehaffey, Mr. Peaslee and Mr. Eliot.

Mr. Moore said a Bill, introduced in Congress by Hon. George Holden
William, of Massachusetts, (H.R. 11808, of February 20, 1938), contemplated
the improvement of the Washington Monument Grounds, as recommended in the
Plan of 1901, and that he attended a Hearing on the Bill on May 11, 1938 (Exhibit II)
that engineers regard the project feasible, and that he felt it should be
carried out while the rest of the Mall and the Public Buildings program for
the Triangle is being developed, as it is an essential part of the Mall Plan.

In conclusion, the Commission expressed their appreciation of the
favorable action taken by Congress at this Session on so many of the projects
for the development of the National Capital, and felt that with the passage
of this pending legislation at the next Session, the essentials of the
Mall Plan and the Plan of 1901 may be regarded as adopted.

The Commission adjourned at 5:45 p.m. The Commission had as their
guests at luncheon, Mr. Honnold, Major Mahaffey, Mr. Fennell and Mr. Whit.

COPY

May 25, 1928.

Dear Mr. Brosnan:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting yesterday, gave consideration to the question of designer of the flagpole at Fort Sumter, South Carolina, and suggested Mr. Albert Simons, of the firm of Simons and Lapham, Architects, 42 Broad Street, Charleston, S.C. The Commission know of his work and are confident he will design an appropriate flagpole for Fort Sumter, together with a landscape plan, for the amount available. I would be pleased to hear from you whether or not his selection meets with your approval, whereupon I will take up the matter with Mr. Simons.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Francis X. Brosnan,

50 Broad Street,

New York, N.Y.

EXHIBIT A

May 22, 1922.

Dear Mr. Brown:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting yesterday, gave

consideration to the question of designer of the flagpole at

Fort Sumter, South Carolina, and suggested Mr. Albert Simons, of the

firm of Simons and Tappan, Architects, 42 Broad Street, Charleston, S.C.

The Commission know of his work and are confident he will design an

appropriate flagpole for Fort Sumter, together with a landscape plan,

for the amount available. I would be pleased to hear from you

whether or not his selection meets with your approval, whereupon I

will take up the matter with Mr. Simons.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Francis X. Brown,

50 Broad Street,

New York, N.Y.

EXHIBIT A

COPY

May 25, 1928.

Dear Mr. Warren:

As you know, the War Department appropriation act for the fiscal year 1929 carries \$25,000 as an initial appropriation for the Orville Wright Memorial at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, "Provided, that not to exceed \$5,000 of this sum may be expended for the purchase of plans, drawings, and specifications for the erection of this monument by open competition, under such conditions as the commission may prescribe".

Yesterday at their meeting, the Commission of Fine Arts were in conference with representatives of the Quartermaster General, War Department, Major General B. F. Cheatham, who desired to know what the War Department should do now to carry out the provisions of the Act above quoted. The Commission advised that a program of competition should be drawn up (similar to that for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier), stating the type of memorial to be desired and the amount of money to be made available for it. We would be pleased to have your recommendations with regard to these matters before taking up the project further with the Quartermaster General.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Hon. Lindsay C. Warren,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

Exhibit B

May 25, 1938

Dear Mr. Warren:

As you know, the War Department appropriation act for the fiscal year 1939 carries \$25,000 as an initial appropriation for the Orville Wright Memorial at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, "provided, that not to exceed \$5,000 of this sum may be expended for the purchase of plans, drawings, and specifications for the erection of this monument by open competition, under such conditions as the commission may prescribe".

Yesterday at their meeting, the Commission of Fine Arts were in conference with representatives of the Quartermaster General, War

Department, Major General B. W. Chestnut, who desired to know what the

War Department should do now to carry out the provisions of the act

above quoted. The Commission advised that a program of competition

should be drawn up (similar to that for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier),

stating the type of memorial to be desired and the amount of money to

be made available for it. We would be pleased to have your recom-

mendations with regard to these matters before taking up the project

further with the Quartermaster General.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Hon. Lindsay O. Warren,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

HERBERT C. BONNER
SECRETARY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

RECEIVED
THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
WASHINGTON, D. C.
MAY 26 1928
NOTED
May 26, 1928.

Hon. Charles Moore,
Chairman Commission of Fine Arts,
City.

My dear Mr. Moore:-

I have your letter of May 25, in reference to the Wright Memorial at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. I note that you have advised General Cheatham that a program of competition should be drawn up (similar to that of the Unknown Soldier), stating the type of memorial to be desired, and the amount of money to be available for it.

I agree with you that this is the proper course. Several weeks ago I had a very satisfactory talk with General Cheatham and I am sure that there will be close cooperation between you.

I asked General Cheatham to have plans drawn for a memorial to cost between two hundred, and two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. I am hoping that there will be no delay about any phase of it, and that when we convene in December, the Commission of Fine Arts will have already approved the designs submitted. I could then get a joint meeting of the Committee on the Library, and then it would be presented to the Appropriations Committee for final action. I call your attention to the fact that as the next session will be the short one, the appropriation bills are framed very early, and if this measure is to be passed, the item should be carried in the Army Bill. You can therefore appreciate the necessity of everything being ready, and approved by December.

I again wish to express to you my thanks for your interest, suggestions, and aid in this matter.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

Kim C. Carter



COPY

Letter sent to the Assistant Secretary of War, of the Navy, and
of Commerce:

May 28, 1928.

Congress having ordered a competition for a monument to be
erected to the flight of Orville Wright, at Kitty Hawk, N.C., the
Quartermaster General of the War Department has called upon the
Commission of Fine Arts for advice in the preparation of the program
of competition. Before such a program can be prepared it is
necessary to know whether the Navy (War) (Commerce) Department desires
to have erected and maintained a light house at Kitty Hawk, which has
been suggested for this memorial.

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major, Col. H. G. Scott, Jr., Secretary
of the National Advisory
Committee on the Proposed
Monument to the Wright Brothers,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT B-2

COPY

Letter sent to the Assistant Secretary of War, of the Navy, and

of Commerce:

May 28, 1922.

Congress having ordered a competition for a monument to be
erected to the flight of Orville Wright, at Kitty Hawk, N.C., the
Quartermaster General of the War Department has called upon the
Commission of Fine Arts for advice in the preparation of the program
of competition. Before such a program can be prepared it is
necessary to know whether the Navy (War) (Commerce) Department desires
to have erected and maintained a light house at Kitty Hawk, which has
been suggested for this memorial.

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

ENCLOSURE 8-2

COPY

May 25, 1928.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting yesterday, were in conference with Major Mehaffey regarding the design for the new Boat House to be built at the Tidal Basin. The architect members of the Commission felt an improvement could be made in the design, and the matter was referred to Mr. Benjamin W. Morris for special immediate study.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Director,
Public Buildings and Public Parks
of the National Capital,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT C

COPY

May 25, 1928

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting yesterday, were in conference with Major Meade regarding the design for the new Post House to be built at the Tidal Basin. The architect members of the Commission felt an improvement could be made in the design, and the matter was referred to Mr. Benjamin W. Morris for special immediate study.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Director,
Public Buildings and Public Parks
of the National Capital,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT C

COPY

May 28, 1928.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 24, 1928, considered drawings for the Lower Garden of Meridian Hill Park, prepared by Mr. Horace W. Peaslee, Architect, and submitted through your Office. The plans carried out the suggestions made at a Committee meeting held in New York City on May 7th, which was attended by Mr. Vitale, Mr. Platt, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Peaslee.

The drawings as submitted by Mr. Peaslee were approved with the suggestion that planting areas be provided between the detached seats of the exedra and enlarging upon the mosaic frame of the proposed Manship dial; also to extend the enframing holly planting so as to form a pleached archway over the walk south of the exedra.

An inspection of the construction work of the Lower Garden in Meridian Hill Park was made by the Commission in the afternoon, when it was agreed generally that in order to get variety in the pavements it would be necessary to get contrast in size of aggregate rather than to depend merely upon the slight difference in color and texture which appears in trap and gravel of about the same size.

At the meeting of the Commission on April 20th a planting plan for the Lower Garden of Meridian Hill Park, submitted in your behalf by Mr. Irving W. Payne, Landscape Architect, of your Office, was considered, and approved, with a few suggestions made to Mr. Payne.

Consideration was given to the Buchanan Memorial, and the Commission are advising General Riggs, of Baltimore, that they approve the Balfour Pink granite (in which the end figures have been cut) for the entire monument, with the understanding that it be given a honed finish and not a highly polished finish. The Buchanan statue will be in bronze.

Also, the Commission again urged the planting of trees on the Grand Terrace. Major Mehaffey said that subject to your approval he thought one row of trees along the north side of the Grand Terrace could be planted now. The Commission would regard this a decided step forward towards the completion of the park, and hope these trees will be planted in the very near future.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Director,
Public Buildings and Public Parks
of the National Capital,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT D

May 28, 1918.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 24, 1918, considered drawings for the lower garden of Meridian Hill Park, prepared by Mr. Horace W. Fesslee, Architect, and submitted through your Office. The plans carried out the suggestions made at a Committee meeting held in New York City on May 17th, which was attended by Mr. Vitale, Mr. Platt, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Fesslee. The drawings as submitted by Mr. Fesslee were approved with the suggestion that planting areas be provided between the detached seats of the exedrae and enlarging upon the mosaic frame of the proposed landscape; also to extend the existing holly planting so as to form a finished screen over the walk south of the exedrae.

An inspection of the construction work of the lower garden in Meridian Hill Park was made by the Commission in the afternoon, when it was agreed generally that in order to get variety in the pavements it would be necessary to get contrast in size of aggregate rather than to depend merely upon the slight difference in color and texture which appears in trap and gravel of about the same size.

At the meeting of the Commission on April 30th a planting plan for the lower garden of Meridian Hill Park, submitted in your behalf by Mr. Irving W. Payne, Landscape Architect, of your Office, was considered, and approved, with a few suggestions made to Mr. Payne.

Consideration was given to the Buchanan Memorial, and the Commission are advising General Higgs, of Baltimore, that they approve the Ballou Park granite (in which the end figures have been cut) for the entire monument, with the understanding that it be given a honed finish and not a highly polished finish. The Buchanan statue will be in bronze.

Also, the Commission again urged the planting of trees on the Grand Terrace. Major McHaffey said that subject to your approval he thought one row of trees along the north side of the Grand Terrace could be planted now. The Commission would regard this a decided step forward towards the completion of the park, and hope these trees will be planted in the very near future.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Chief of U. S. Grant Bldg. Director,
Public Buildings and Public Parks
of the National Capital,
Washington, D. C.

ENCLOSURE

COPY

May 25, 1928.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting yesterday, gave further consideration to the location of the District of Columbia World War Memorial, a bandstand, to be erected in Potomac Park. An inspection was made of the "Howard Plan" and the 1901 Plan for the Mall, both of which suggested a feature on the south side of the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Basin, at about the point selected for the location of the bandstand, and one on the north side of the Reflecting Basin. The Commission felt it desirable that your Office make a survey and prepare a sketch plan showing these features on axis. If you should favor this suggestion, the Commission would be pleased if you would have such a plan prepared for consideration.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Director,
Public Buildings and Public Parks
of the National Capital,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT E

COPY

May 25, 1928.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting yesterday, gave further consideration to the location of the District of Columbia World War Memorial, a bandstand, to be erected in Potomac Park, an inspection was made of the "Howard Plan" and the 1901 Plan for the Mall, both of which suggested a feature on the south side of the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Basin, at about the point selected for the location of the bandstand, and one on the north side of the Reflecting Basin. The Commission felt it desirable that your Office make a survey and prepare a sketch plan showing these features on axis. If you should favor this suggestion, the Commission would be pleased if you would have such a plan prepared for consideration.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Director,
Public Buildings and Public Parks
of the National Capital,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT B

[PUBLIC—No. 493—70TH CONGRESS]

[S. 1369]

An Act To authorize and direct the survey, construction, and maintenance of a memorial highway to connect Mount Vernon, in the State of Virginia, with the Arlington Memorial Bridge across the Potomac River at Washington.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the United States Commission for the Celebration of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Birth of George Washington (hereinafter referred to as the commission), created by Public Resolution Numbered 38, approved December 2, 1924, be, and the same is hereby, authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary to construct a suitable memorial highway to connect Mount Vernon, the home and burial place of George Washington, in the State of Virginia, with the south end of the Arlington Memorial Bridge, now being constructed across the Potomac River at the city of Washington, District of Columbia, acting through and by utilizing the services of the United States Department of Agriculture.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized and directed to cooperate with said commission in carrying out the provisions of this Act. He shall cause to be made such surveys as may be deemed necessary of the route, or routes, between the points named in section 1 hereof. The said commission shall determine the route on which said highway shall be constructed. The Secretary of Agriculture shall cause to be prepared such plans, specifications, and estimates for the construction of said highway as may be necessary, which shall include provision for the planting of shade trees and shrubbery and for such other landscape treatment, parking, and ornamental structures as he may prescribe, such plans and specifications to be subject to approval by the commission. He shall advertise for bids and enter into contracts for and supervise the work of constructing said highway.

SEC. 3. That the highway authorized to be constructed under the provisions of this Act shall have a right of way of such minimum width as the commission shall determine, and shall be constructed only of such durable type of surfacing as will adequately meet the present and probable future traffic needs and conditions thereon. The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized to occupy such lands belonging to the United States or to the District of Columbia as may be necessary for the location, construction, and maintenance of the highway authorized herein.

SEC. 4. That the Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized to acquire such lands as may be necessary for the proper location, construction, and maintenance of said highway, including parking, by purchase, condemnation, gift, grant, dedication, devise, or otherwise, from any source whatsoever. The Secretary of Agriculture may accept funds from any State, county, or political subdivision of a State, or from any individual or association, for the purpose of aid-

Exhibit F

ing in carrying out the provisions of this Act. Such lands as may be acquired by purchase or condemnation may be paid for from funds authorized to be appropriated under this Act, or from funds that may be donated for the purpose of aiding in carrying out the provisions hereof. Whenever it becomes necessary to acquire by condemnation proceedings any lands in the State of Virginia for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act, such proceedings shall conform to the laws of said State now in force in reference to Federal condemnation proceedings. No payment shall be made for any such lands until the title thereto in the United States shall be satisfactory to the Attorney General of the United States.

SEC. 5. That after the construction of said highway, the Secretary of Agriculture shall cause the same to be properly maintained, and shall pay the cost thereof from funds to be appropriated annually for that purpose, which appropriations are hereby authorized to be made. The Secretary of Agriculture shall have control over the vehicular and pedestrian movement on and over the highway constructed hereunder and may issue rules and regulations to govern such traffic and all uses of said highway, including limitations on the size, kind, weight, and speed of vehicles: *Provided*, That nothing herein shall be so construed as to conflict or interfere with the concurrent jurisdiction of the State of Virginia reserved by the laws of said State now in force over property acquired therein by the United States, or with chapter 494 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Virginia, approved March 25, 1926, authorizing cooperation on the part of the State and interested subdivisions thereof in the construction of the highway herein provided for.

SEC. 6. That for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the following sums, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to be available until expended: The sum of \$500,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928; the sum of \$2,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1929; the sum of \$1,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1930; the sum of \$1,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931.

SEC. 7. That out of the appropriations made under this Act, or Acts amendatory thereof or supplemental thereto, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to employ such assistants, engineers, clerks, and other persons, in the city of Washington and elsewhere, to pay the salaries of like persons regularly employed by the Government whose services may be utilized hereunder and to incur such travel and other expenses as he may deem necessary for carrying out the purpose of this Act.

Approved, May 23, 1928.

70TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 13929

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 28 (calendar day, MAY 29), 1928

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds

AN ACT

To provide for the enlarging of the Capitol Grounds.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the commission created by the Act entitled "An Act
4 to create a commission to be known as the Commission for
5 the Enlarging of the Capitol Grounds, and for other pur-
6 poses," approved April 11, 1928, is authorized and directed
7 to carry out the plan for the enlarging of the Capitol
8 Grounds recommended by the commission in Scheme B
9 of its report to the Congress contained in House Document
10 Numbered 252, Seventieth Congress, first session, as
11 follows:

1 (1) Provision for an avenue extending from the
2 western fountain in front of the Union Station southwesterly
3 to Pennsylvania Avenue, joining said avenue between Second
4 and Third Streets Northwest.

5 (2) Closing of North Capitol Street south of D Street.

6 (3) Closing of C Street to vehicular traffic between
7 New Jersey Avenue and First Street Northeast, and
8 removal of street-car tracks from C Street and re-laying
9 them in a subway passing under Delaware Avenue.

10 (4) Removal of street-car tracks from Delaware Ave-
11 nue and B Street (including the spur extending from Dela-
12 ware Avenue into the Capitol Grounds) and re-laying them
13 on First Street Northeast, and establishing a convenient
14 subway connection with the basement of the Senate Office
15 Building.

16 (5) Construction of an underground garage extending
17 from Delaware Avenue to New Jersey Avenue;

18 (6) Acquisition of private property and removal of
19 existing buildings, as hereinafter provided; and

20 (7) Construction of terraces and fountains, grading,
21 landscaping, and architectural treatment.

22 SEC. 2. For the purposes of this Act the Architect of
23 the Capitol is authorized, under the direction of the commis-
24 sion—

1 (1) To acquire, on behalf of the United States, by
2 purchase, condemnation, or otherwise, all or any part of the
3 privately owned lands, including buildings and other struc-
4 tures, in lot 800 of square numbered 574; square numbered
5 575; lots 1, 2, and 818 of square numbered 630; lot 1 of
6 square numbered 631; the western half of square numbered
7 633; and reservation numbered 12, as such squares and reser-
8 vation appear on the records of the office of the surveyor of
9 the District of Columbia as of the date of the approval of this
10 Act. Any condemnation proceedings instituted under author-
11 ity of this Act shall be in accordance with the provisions of
12 section 3 of the Act entitled "An Act making appropriations
13 for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year
14 ending June 30, 1891, and for other purposes," approved
15 August 30, 1890, as amended.

16 (2) When title to the property specified in subdivision
17 (1) of this section has been vested in the United States, to
18 provide for the demolition and removal, as expeditiously as
19 possible, of any structures thereon; and to provide for the
20 demolition and removal, as expeditiously as possible, of any
21 structures on other lands within the area of the proposed
22 development.

23 (3) To enter into contracts, to purchase materials, sup-
24 plies, equipment, and accessories, in the open market, to

1 accordance with the approved plans for enlarging the
2 Capitol Grounds. For the purpose of carrying out the
3 provisions of this section, jurisdiction over that part of the
4 public grounds the development of which is herein author-
5 ized shall be transferred to the Director of Public Buildings
6 and Public Parks of the National Capital at such time as
7 may be approved by the Joint Committee on the Library.

8 SEC. 6. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated
9 the sum of \$4,912,414, or so much thereof as may be
10 necessary, to enable the Commission for the Enlarging of
11 the Capitol Grounds to carry out the provisions of this Act
12 relating to the enlarging of the Capitol Grounds. Appro-
13 priations made under authority of this section shall be dis-
14 bursed by the disbursing officer of the Department of the
15 Interior.

Passed the House of Representatives May 28, 1928.

Attest:

WM. TYLER PAGE,

Clerk.

WILLIAM

AN ACT

To provide for the enlarging of the Capitol
Grounds.

MAY 28 (calendar day, MAY 29), 1928
Read twice and referred to the Committee on
Public Buildings and Grounds

Referred

PROVIDING FOR THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS

MAY 22, 1928.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state
of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. ELLIOTT, from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 13929]

The Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, to which was
referred (H. R. 13929) the bill to provide for the enlarging of the
Capitol Grounds, having duly considered the same, reports favorably
thereon with the recommendation that the bill do pass.

This bill authorizes and directs the commission, known as the
Commission for the Enlarging of the Capitol Grounds, created April
11, 1928, to carry out the plan for enlarging the Capitol Grounds
recommended by the commission in scheme B of its reports to
Congress, which report follows:

[House Document No. 252, Seventieth Congress, first session]

APRIL 24, 1928.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES.

SIR: Under the act entitled "An act to create a commission to be known as
the Commission for the Enlarging of the Capitol Grounds, and for other pur-
poses," approved April 11, 1928, there was created the following commission for
enlarging the Capitol Grounds:

The Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Repre-
sentatives of the United States, the chairman and ranking minority member of
the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, the chairman and
ranking minority member of the House Committee on Public Buildings and
Grounds, the minority leader of the Senate, the minority leader of the House of
Representatives, and the Architect of the Capitol. In the act referred to the
duty placed upon the commission is as follows:

"The commission is authorized to consider plans and estimates for the creation
of a park area to enlarge the Capitol Grounds, including the plans showing the
original scheme for the development of this area, and the alternative scheme for
the development of this and added areas, and to recommend to the Congress such
original and alternative plans or schemes with estimates of costs therefor, together
with recommendations for the purchase of such other areas as may be considered

necessary to give to the plans for the enlargement of the Capitol Grounds a suitable landscape treatment for the Capitol Building in relation to the landscape treatment with the proposed arrangement of the Mall area."

From February 12, 1901, up to the passage of the sundry civil act of June 25, 1910, the intent to set apart the area to the north of the Capitol is clearly set forth in the legislation which provided for relocation of railroad tracks and the combining in a union station of the two separate railroad stations furnishing means of reaching by train the National Capital. Sundry civil act of June 25, 1910, declared it to be the purpose of Congress to ultimately acquire all of the squares Nos. 632, 633, 634, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 721, 722, and 723 in the city of Washington, D. C.

After various delays, owing to different causes, among them being the World War, the completion of this purchase was not consummated until payment of the final voucher August 17, 1927. The property thus acquired was undeveloped for the purposes of a park, and contained not only temporary buildings known as the Government Hotels but also many other buildings the removal of which was necessary in order that the ground purchased should be in a condition to be further developed for park purposes. During the year 1927, 34 houses in squares 633, 683, and 684 were razed, the foundations removed, and the excavations filled. There still remains to be razed the Maltby Building, the Government Hotels, the Senate garage, and the buildings occupied by the Senate as folding rooms. When the buildings just referred to have been removed the necessary grading of the entire area can be undertaken. Legislative act approved February 23, 1927, provided for the removal of the buildings not occupied by Government activities, and the preparation of plans for the development of this area as a park, thereby extending the present grounds of the Capitol.

In the performance of its duties the commission has considered two sets of plans prepared under the direction of the Architect of the Capitol. These plans and the relative cost of each are as follows:

Scheme A contemplates the treatment of this area as a park and the location of a new avenue commencing at the western fountain in front of the Union Station and running in a southwesterly direction and ending at the Peace Monument at the foot of the Capitol Grounds. This plan contemplates in its development the cutting off of a small portion of the northwest corner of the present Capitol Grounds. The cost of the development of this scheme, known as scheme A, with its contemplated improvements, is \$1,585,465. Its disadvantages are:

The cutting off of a section of the present Capitol Grounds.

The bisecting of the area acquired as indicated by the squares previously named, making a suitable treatment of this acquired property extremely difficult.

The avenue as contemplated would cross B Street where there is a 7 per cent grade, making the traffic conditions dangerous.

Scheme B provides for an avenue starting from the western fountain in front of Union Station running in a southwesterly direction crossing B Street near the corner of Second Street and joining Pennsylvania Avenue between Second and Third Streets NW., thereby suitably connecting with the plan for the development of the Mall. This scheme virtually enlarges the present Capitol Grounds by extending the line of traffic one square west, thus diverting traffic from its present proximity to the west boundary of the Capitol Grounds. It also provides for the closing of North Capitol Street at D Street and detours the traffic to New Jersey Avenue and Delaware Avenue, leaving North Capitol Street open for a vista street. It makes possible the closing of C Street to vehicular travel if provision is made for retaining existing street-car lines. This scheme provides for the placing of tracks in a subway crossing under Delaware Avenue and passing them under a terrace in such a way that the grounds afford an unbroken aspect.

Included in this rearrangement the street-car lines and tracks on Delaware Avenue are removed and replaced on First Street NE., making a direct line to the Union Station with a car stop beneath Delaware Avenue for the C Street line with a convenient subway connection with the basement in the Senate Office Building. By the closing of North Capitol Street and C Street it becomes possible to treat the area of four city blocks as a park worthy to be called an extension of the Capitol Grounds. Scheme B also provides for a shelter for automobiles used in connection with the Capitol in the form of an underground garage with its floor approximately at the level of C Street and extending from Delaware Avenue to New Jersey Avenue, by which a space for parking automobiles and trucks is amply provided.

These studies have been discussed at length with the Federal City and Park Planning Commission and the Fine Arts Commission and the location of the avenue as presented in Scheme B was approved by both commissions. It is true that this scheme involves the acquisition of some private property, particularly the triangular points of the corners of blocks 630 and 631 at the intersection of North Capitol and D Streets and New Jersey Avenue and C Street, respectively. The resulting advantage of this is that by clipping the corners of those blocks there are produced façades of buildings facing the Capitol Park instead of leaving sharp angles projecting into it.

Scheme B contemplates the acquisition of land at the north end of Union Square comprising blocks 631, lot 1; block 630, lots 1, 2, and 818; reservation 12; block 574, lot 800; and the western half of block 633 and square 575.

Pursuant to the authority of law and having in mind the unquestioned desire of Congress for a proper and artistic development of the Capitol Grounds and their environs as a harmonious factor in relation to the beautification of the city of Washington, the commission recommends the adoption of scheme B. This plan in detail and in point of superiority over any alternative plans is as follows:

It contemplates an avenue starting from the western fountain in front of Union Station, proceeding in a southwesterly direction to that portion of Pennsylvania Avenue between Second and Third Streets, to be known as Union Square in the proposed development of the Mall area. This gives a marginal avenue with a direct connection to Pennsylvania Avenue in a formal and splendid manner. This avenue crosses B Street at a point where the grade is suitable for a street crossing. This deflects travel which would go directly to the northwestern corner of the Capitol Grounds if scheme A had been recommended. By the adoption of scheme B and the rearrangement of existing streets in the 12 squares now owned by the Government, it makes possible the treatment of a large area in a suitable manner, which could not be done if this large area were bisected by an avenue as in scheme A. It provides thereby for a suitable approach to the Capitol from the north, the removal of such car lines, the building of terraces, the lowering of street-car tracks so that there are no cars seen between the Union Station and the Capitol, and makes this view of the Capitol far more attractive than any other plan developed.

The cost of scheme B is for improvements, \$1,871,021; for acquisition of land, \$3,041,393; total, \$4,912,414.

The commission recommends the enactment of legislation which will authorize the Architect of the Capitol to proceed with the adopted plan as outlined herein. Its consummation involving as it does the purchase of land and buildings, perhaps condemnation proceedings, the removal of buildings, the cutting of new streets, the removal of tracks, etc., will require considerable time.

In order that the development of the Capitol Grounds may progress as the Congress evidently seriously intended as early as 1901, the commission urges early action on the recommendations herein contained.

Respectfully submitted.

CHARLES G. DAWES,
Vice President of the United States.

NICHOLAS LONGWORTH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States.

HENRY W. KEYES,
Chairman Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds.

FRITZ G. LANHAM,
*Ranking Minority Member of the House Committee
on Public Buildings and Grounds.*

RICHARD N. ELLIOTT,
Chairman House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds.

JAMES A. REED,
*Ranking Minority Member of the Senate Committee
on Public Buildings and Grounds.*

JOSEPH T. ROBINSON,
Minority Leader of the United States Senate.

FINIS J. GARRETT,
Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

DAVID LYNN,
Architect of the Capitol.

MEMORANDUM

For the information of the Congress it is stated that certain parcels of land in which the title is vested in the District of Columbia have not been acquired by the commission intrusted with the purchase of land within the 12 squares referred to, for the reason that there is no authority vested in the District of Columbia to convey the land in question. The parcels of land are as follows:

Squares 633: Lots 51, 52, 53, 67, 68, 70, 71, 72, 73, and 74 commonly known as the Arthur School property, containing 19,590 square feet improved by a brick 8-room schoolhouse.

Square 722 contains parcels, totaling 3,016 square feet, consisting of ground originally withheld by the District of Columbia for alley purposes.

Square 682, lot 12, a strip of ground 5 feet in width and tapering to zero. Area not given.

Square 721: A part of old E Street, a remainder created by readjustment of the street to conform to the contour lines of the Plaza. Area not given.



IMPROVEMENT OF THE BASE AND GROUNDS OF THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT

HEARING

BEFORE

THE COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEVENTIETH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

H. R. 11208

A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR ENGINEERING AND LANDSCAPE
STUDY, PREPARATION OF PLANS, AND ESTIMATE OF COST
OF IMPROVEMENT OF THE BASE AND GROUNDS OF
THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT IN THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

MAY 11, 1928



UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON
1928

105208

Exhibit H

COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEVENTIETH CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

ROBERT LUCE, Massachusetts, *Chairman*

JOHN C. ALLEN, Illinois.

RALPH GILBERT, Kentucky.

FREDERICK M. DAVENPORT, New York. ALFRED L. BULWINKLE, North Carolina.

ROBERT H. KEMPTON, *Clerk*

IMPROVEMENT OF THE BASE AND GROUNDS OF THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
THE COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY,
Friday, May 11, 1928.

The committee met at 10 o'clock a. m., Hon. Robert Luce (chairman) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. We will take up first the bill H. R. 11208, introduced by Mr. Tinkham, of Massachusetts, providing for engineering and landscape study, preparation of plans and estimate of cost of improvement of the base grounds of the Washington Monument in the District of Columbia. Mr. Tinkham is present and will persuade us of the merits of the bill.

STATEMENT OF HON. GEORGE HOLDEN TINKHAM, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS

Mr. TINKHAM. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, I should like first to read the bill:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital, in consultation with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to make an engineering, architectural, and landscape study of the improvement of the base and grounds of the Washington Monument, including such borings and other investigations as may be necessary, and to prepare plans and report to Congress an estimate of cost for the execution of such project.

SEC. 2. That said Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks, with the specific approval of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, is hereby authorized to employ, on such terms as said commissions shall decide, expert consultants, engineers, architects, landscape architects, or firms, partnerships, or associations thereof, including the facilities, services, travel, and other expenses of their respective organizations so far as employed upon this project, in accordance with the usual customs of their several professions, without regard to the restrictions of law or civil-service requirements governing the employment, salaries, or traveling expenses of regular employees of the United States.

SEC. 3. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated to carry out the purposes of this act the sum of \$30,000.

I should like to call as my first witness Mr. Charles Moore, chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Moore, you may proceed.

Mr. TINKHAM. Mr. Moore, I should like to have you give to the committee your advice and opinion in regard to this bill.

STATEMENT OF CHARLES MOORE CHAIRMAN COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, under the plan of 1901 that was prepared by Mr. Burnham, Mr. McKim, Mr. St. Gaudens, and Mr. Olmsted, the treatment of the

Washington Monument Grounds was considered. After studying the situation very carefully, they came to the conclusion that the monument lacked adequate support by reason of its location on a mound. They believed that both historically and artistically an obelisk of that height and of that bulk should rise from a plane instead of from a mound. In their study, they took the Capitol and the Washington Monument as the focal points. They found that the Monument had been located quite casually off the axis of the Capitol. L'Enfant, in planning Washington, drew a line east and west through the center of the Capitol and one due south from the center of the White House, and at the point where those two lines intersect, he placed a monument to George Washington. Thomas Jefferson had a pile of stones placed there so as to mark the crossing of the two axes. The Congress of the Confederation had made an appropriation for a monument to George Washington, and when L'Enfant made his plan of the Federal City (as it was then called) he located it at that spot; but, like other appropriations and authorizations of the Continental Congress nothing ever came of it.

In 1848, when it was determined to build by public subscription a monument to George Washington, that idea of locating it at the crossing of the axes was not thought of. L'Enfant's plan, although it was the official plan of the Capital, was forgotten. So the Monument was placed on a height of ground, off axis with both the Capitol and the White House.

Feeling the necessity of restoring the park connection between the Capitol and the White House, the commission in 1901 made a new axis by drawing a line from the dome of the Capitol through the Washington Monument, and prolonging it to the Potomac River, where, they said, was the place for the monument to Abraham Lincoln.

That reasoning seemed to be so obvious to this commission that they could not quite understand the opposition to it, but there was a great deal of opposition. One idea was to place the memorial at the Soldiers' Home; another to locate it in connection with the Union Station, or on Meridien Hill, or in Arlington, or anywhere rather than here at the end of the main axis. However, now that the Lincoln Memorial has been located where it was originally planned to be in 1901, everybody says that is the one and only place for it.

Now, it was felt that the key or center of the whole composition was the Washington Monument, and that it should be adequately treated with gardens about it. The axis from the Capitol has been reestablished and the new buildings have been aligned accordingly.

As you know, the building for the National Museum, which was the first of the new buildings to be constructed, was located in accordance with the revised axis; the location of the Agriculture Department Building brought out great controversy, which President Roosevelt and Secretaries Root and Taft settled in accordance with the plan of 1901. That action established the new axis for all time. The Freer Gallery fell naturally into place. The foundations of the George Washington Memorial and the plan for the National Gallery of Art recognize this new axis, not the line of B Street.

In order to give the Washington Monument adequate treatment and restore its axial relations, the commission of 1901 planned a great terrace from which one might look over the city and over the

Potomac, and designed gardens for the enjoyment of the people. It is a well-thought-out plan, and had been carefully considered. It involves, as I say, a terrace on four sides of the Monument, supporting elms or carrying elms; and then it provides for gardens below. To maintain the White House axis, a pool was placed in the center of the lower gardens, where the White House axis crosses.

Those studies were made between April 1, 1901, and January 1, 1902. During those nine months the entire District of Columbia was replanned along the lines of the original L'Enfant scheme made under the direct supervision of President Washington and in many particulars corrected by him personally.

The Commission of 1901 never maintained that theirs was the final or ultimate plan. It was realized that as time progressed there might be modifications of that plan. What the commission always did insist upon was that there should be no change in the plan except after adequate study and consideration by the best men of the country.

So the Monument garden has been left to be worked out as a factor in the development of the Mall system and the landscape setting of the Lincoln Memorial. Carrying out the plan involves the rectification to a certain extent of the Tidal Basin which is an irregular shaped basin which does not align itself with the Washington Monument. It had no relation to it when it was laid out for the purpose of providing means of flushing the Washington Channel. Such rectification does not mean much change or expense.

The whole question of the Monument gardens is subject to study. There is a question of engineering as to how far you can cut into the west side of the Monument Grounds or mound. There are various engineering problems that must be met from an engineering standpoint and that must be studied from the engineering standpoint; this bill involves such a study.

It is very desirable to take this matter up at once and have a plan made, because the excavations in the triangle for new public buildings you will get a great amount of earth that has to be disposed of somewhere. The easiest place and the cheapest place to dispose of it is to make these Monument gardens, and you can do it. You can carry Fifteenth Street through; connect Fifteenth Street in front of the new Commerce Building with the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Then the terrace for the Monument gardens would be a part of the extension of Fifteenth Street.

Now, in that connection let me tell you what happened: When it was determined to build the mound on which to place the Lincoln Memorial, bids for the construction of the Interior Department Building were being considered. When the contractor bid on the excavation for the building he was very shrewd. He saw in his own mind the Lincoln Memorial mound. He did not tell anybody, and he made his bid on the general basis of excavation, but he was able, after bidding, to put a railroad track in there and dispose of the dirt by making the Lincoln Memorial mound. In that way, he saved \$40,000, and that went into his own pocket. In view of these conditions that we have now (which are exactly similar to the conditions that existed then) I talked this matter over with President Coolidge awhile ago, and pointed out to him the economies that would result

if we could utilize that dirt from the excavations for the triangle buildings to make the Monument gardens.

Mr. TINKHAM. May I ask Mr. Moore a question?

The CHAIRMAN. Certainly.

Mr. TINKHAM. Is your position that of director or chairman of the National Park and Planning Commission?

Mr. MOORE. No, sir; excuse me; I am chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts.

Mr. TINKHAM. Is there a general plan concerning the beautification of Washington?

Mr. MOORE. Yes, sir.

Mr. TINKHAM. What is that plan known as?

Mr. MOORE. It has various names. It is known as the plan of 1901; it is known as the Burnham plan, and it is known as the McMillin plan. It is a plan for improving the park system of the District of Columbia, including the location of public buildings.

Mr. TINKHAM. Was this a part of the plan of 1901?

Mr. MOORE. Yes, sir; and an essential part.

Mr. TINKHAM. You think that the sooner this is done, the better it will be, because of the reasons you have given?

Mr. MOORE. Certainly.

Mr. TINKHAM. That is all I wish to ask.

STATEMENT OF LIEUT. COL. U. S. GRANT 3D DIRECTOR OFFICE OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC PARKS OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

The CHAIRMAN. Colonel Grant, we shall be glad to hear you now.

Colonel GRANT. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, one of the first things that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission considered when it was instituted two years ago was the development of the major axis of the Capital along the lines of the 1901 plan. When we came to consider the plans for the improvement of the Washington Monument Grounds the commission realized that the 1901 plan included a quite extensive project, the cost of which had never been determined or estimated. It includes an excavation on one side of the monument which would lighten the load on the foundations on the west side and it includes terraces on the other side which would, unless built in a hollow shell form of some kind, undoubtedly add a considerable weight on the east side, which raises an engineering problem as to whether or in what way you could provide against the possibility of an uneven settlement in the subsoil under the Washington Monument and possible injury to the monument in the course of doing the work. The commission realizes that the problem is not at all insoluble, but it would be expensive, and it should be definitely designed and estimates made on detailed plans. The planning commission has no other plan in mind than this one, which was contained in the plan of 1901 and which is very amply illustrated in the report of the commission, which is contained in Senate Report No. 166, Fifty-seventh Congress, first session.

The planning commission did not want to come to Congress and recommend any legislation for an indefinite project, of which they did not know the cost and of which the details had not been worked out. I should say that the Washington Monument is on a spread

foundation of floating subsoil of uncertain compactness. You may remember that when it was originally built, it began to settle unevenly toward one side, and it was one of the problems then in completing the monument to straighten out that settlement. Now, it is not an insoluble problem at all, but the commission felt that the only way to go at it was to make a very careful study, including definite designs showing how the matter should be treated, with estimates of the cost of doing it. There is of course a possibility that some change in the design may be found desirable, and considerable economies may be possible on further study that would not detract from its general effectiveness.

I might say that one of the members of the Park and Planning Commission at the present time is Mr. Olmsted, who was the one of the 1901 commission who worked with Mr. McKim more especially on this particular problem, as I remember it; so that the planning commission is not coming in with a new idea or a new scheme, but is simply asking for an opportunity to have a real study made which would form the basis of an estimate that Congress can have confidence in. We feel, as Mr. Moore has said, that the best talent in the country and the best experience in the country in such matters should be available for consultation in this study.

The commission with the funds appropriated would employ the necessary draftsmen and designers to do the heavy work, and such laborious work would be done at Government rates, but it feels that it should have authority to get in consultation with one very good architect, at least, and one engineer who is an expert in foundation work, and to have recourse to such of their assistants as might be needed to work up their drawings and studies. That accounts for section 2, which provides for the employment of certain special personal services.

In regard to section 3, I can suggest an amendment, which your committee may think worth considering. We have in our appropriation for general expenses for public buildings, which is the appropriation from which the Washington Monument itself is operated and maintained, a balance approximating the amount which we think these studies will cost. That balance will not be expended this year, and this bill's chance of passing might, perhaps, be improved—although you are better judges of that than I—by authorizing the use of that balance, instead of authorizing an additional appropriation.

The CHAIRMAN. That brings up a question that was already in my mind as to the necessity for this bill: Why is not a thing of this sort a natural feature of your work, which would warrant the making of a direct appropriation for it? It is a rather dangerous course that every legislative bill has to travel.

Colonel GRANT. There are two appropriations available for my office, one being for general expenses of operation and maintenance and the other for salaries. The salary appropriation is limited to a certain average number of positions at certain average rates of pay. There is no balance in the salary appropriation, and the general-expenses appropriation is not available for salaries. Now, most of this work is high-class professional work, and the expense would be largely for salaries. The only item I can think of that would be of a different character would be the borings that should be made to determine

exactly the character of the subsoil under the monument and under the remainder of the site to be covered by this project. That would be an item which, I think, would not exceed \$10,000 out of the \$30,000. We do not know just how far we will have to go, and we do not know just how deep we will have to go. I can not find any record of any borings on the Washington Monument Grounds going to solid rock or solid earth of any kind. That is one of the complications that necessitate the investigation.

The CHAIRMAN. You do not feel that you would be justified in asking the Committee on Appropriations for an appropriation for that purpose without supporting legislation especially directed thereto?

Colonel GRANT. I can not bring anything before the Appropriations Committee, as you know, without of course first submitting it to the Director of the Budget.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes; I understand that.

Colonel GRANT. And the Director of the Budget has felt that he could not recommend any appropriation for the Mall development or for this, which is a part of the Mall, without some authorization for it.

The CHAIRMAN. That is the point I wanted to bring out.

Colonel GRANT. I have not been able to get the matter before Congress as an appropriation. The Director of the Budget has had this bill before him. As soon as I saw it I referred it to him and asked him for his views on the subject, but I have not yet had an answer.

The CHAIRMAN. This committee will not be deterred by that fact.

Colonel GRANT. I thought I ought to state that. Therefore, if the committee can see its way clear to authorize this, or feels that it is a proper thing to do, there is no question of additional funds, if I can be authorized to use the balance in the appropriation for general expenses for this purpose.

Another consideration is that the study would not be satisfactory and would not carry conviction, I am sure, as the basis for an appropriation for a large amount to do the construction work, unless we had the high grade technical services that we need as consultants in this particular study. It is a very complicated and interesting study.

The only other thing I have to add is to ask, on behalf of our planning commission, your especial consideration of the urgency of the measure. Mr. Moore has pointed out the special economies that it will be possible to get by reason of doing this work, if it is going to be done, at the same time as the work on the new executive buildings.

The drainage of the Washington Monument Grounds, as they now stand, has practically been destroyed by the growth of tree roots, etc., so that now very considerable quantities of water are standing in the low places after every heavy rain making marshy muddy spots. We would have come to Congress two years ago and again this year for an appropriation to rebuild the drainage system, if we had not felt that the new project now before you were going to be done soon, and that it would be a waste of public money to rebuild the present drainage system. However, something will have to be asked for that, if we continue to postpone this matter indefinitely.

To the commission, there was a sentimental interest in getting action on this, because of the approaching bicentennial of President

Washington. Doubtless, if we could be allowed to come to Congress next winter with the project, and with definite estimates and designs, it could still be done by 1932, and we think it would be advantageous to do that rather than postpone it for two or three years.

The CHAIRMAN. We thank you for your statement.

Mr. TINKHAM. The next witness is Mr. Brooks, representing the granite industry of the United States.

STATEMENT OF BENJAMIN J. BROOKS REPRESENTING THE MONUMENT GRANITE ASSOCIATION

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, I am representing the Monument Granite Association in particular. That association looks after the interests of the memorial part of the granite industry. Mr. Holman, who has been the secretary of that association until the 1st of April, was handling this matter. He has recently resigned, and the secretary and the officers of the association who were here in Washington are now in Boston. The matter was brought to Mr. Holman's attention just yesterday in a wire sent to the Boston office, and they asked me to come over here and appear in their behalf.

I am familiar in a general way with what Mr. Holman had done in connection with his thought on the matter. What the Monument Granite Association is primarily interested in is to see that granite has a chance, or that at least some consideration be given granite as the stone to be used in constructing these memorials.

The CHAIRMAN. While we are not unwilling to have your views on that matter, yet I will say to you that such a detail as that would be left wholly to the director of Public Buildings and Public Parks and the Fine Arts Commission. This committee would not undertake to take any hand in that matter.

Mr. BROOKS. The original bill, as introduced, specifically mentioned marble, in fact restricted it to marble. That would outlaw granite entirely. Under the bill as it now reads, the study will include, as I understand it, or it might still include, anyway, the consideration of various stones, in order to determine which would be the most suitable. That is the only interest the granite association has in the matter. We want to be certain that granite will be given some consideration.

The CHAIRMAN. Unless there is some oversight this committee will not report a bill stipulating the material, the details, or the technical features of any construction.

Mr. BROOKS. That is what we are interested in, and I thank you for the hearing.

Mr. TINKHAM. I think the matter has been adequately presented, Mr. Chairman, by those who have appeared, and I think the hearings might be closed.

(Thereupon, the committee proceeded to the consideration of other business.)

James



